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Helen Birch-Bartlett

DRIFT

Two hours . . . .
And the sombre, long kiss of leave-taking.

Your eyes had accepted everything.

And you sank into the long, useless future,
While the present slowly disintegrated about us.

EPILOGUE

Blue-purple,
The shadow of the earth
Circles the long horizon.

My life is circled
By the shadow of your love.

Blue-purple out there,
And over the blue
A rose-pink mist that rises—
That rising, fades.

No frail, flushed aureole
Crowns the shadow in my heart . . . .
Unless this:
That you suffer a little and are often alone
Because of your love
That breathed upon such a pale flame.

Helen Birch-Bartlett